

Foundation of Cryptography, Lecture 3

Hardcore Predicates for Any One-way Function

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Informal Discussion

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Such functions have many cryptographic applications

Formal Definition

Definition 1 (hardcore predicates)

A poly-time computable $b: \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}$ is an **hardcore predicate** of $f: \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^n$, if

$$\Pr_{x \leftarrow \{0,1\}^n} [P(f(x)) = b(x)] \leq \frac{1}{2} + \text{neg}(n)$$

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- Does the existence of hardcore predicate for f implies that f is one-way?

Consider $f(x, y) = x$, then $b(x, y) = y$ is a hardcore predicate for f

Answer to above is **positive**, in case f is **one-to-one**

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Theorem 2

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$$g(x, i) = f(x), i$$

Assuming f is one way, then

$$\Pr_{x \leftarrow \{0, 1\}^n, i \leftarrow [n]} [A(f(x), i) = x_i] \leq 1 - 1/2n$$

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- 1 Construct a weak hardcore predicate for g (i.e., $b(x, i) := x_i$).
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The resulting predicate is not for f but for (the one-way function) g^t ...

The Goldreich-Levin Hardcore predicate

For $x, r \in \{0, 1\}^n$, let $\langle x, r \rangle_2 := (\sum_{i=1}^n x_i \cdot r_i) \bmod 2 = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n x_i \cdot r_i$.

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Proof by reduction: a PPT A for predicting $b(x, r)$ “too well” from $(f(x), r)$, implies an inverter for f

Section 1

Proving GL – The Information Theoretic Case

Min entropy

Definition 4 (min-entropy)

The **min entropy** of a random variable (or distribution) X , is defined as

$$H_{\infty}(X) := \min_{y \in \text{Supp}(X)} \log \frac{1}{\Pr_X[y]}.$$

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Examples:

- Z is uniform over a set of size 2^k .
- $Z = X \mid_{f(X)=y}$, where $f: \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^n$ is 2^k to 1 ,
 $y \in f(\{0, 1\}^n) := \{f(x) : x \in \{0, 1\}^n\}$ and X is uniform over $\{0, 1\}^n$.

In both cases, $H_{\infty}(Z) = k$.

Pairwise independent hashing

Definition 5 (pairwise independent function family)

A function family $\mathcal{H} = \{h: \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^m\}$ is **pairwise independent**, if $\forall x \neq x' \in \{0, 1\}^n$ and $y, y' \in \{0, 1\}^m$, it holds that $\Pr_{h \leftarrow \mathcal{H}}[h(x) = y \wedge h(x') = y'] = 2^{-2m}$.

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Lemma 6 (leftover hash lemma)

Let X be a rv over $\{0, 1\}^n$ with $H_\infty(X) \geq k$ and let $\mathcal{H} = \{h: \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^m\}$ be pairwise independent, then

$$\text{SD}((H, H(X)), (H, U_m)) \leq 2^{(m-k-2)/2},$$

where H is uniformly distributed over \mathcal{H} and U_m is uniformly distributed over $\{0, 1\}^m$.

Efficient function families

Definition 7 (efficient function families)

An ensemble of function families $\mathcal{F} = \{\mathcal{F}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is **efficient**, if

Samplable. Exists PPT that given 1^n , outputs (the description of) a uniform element in \mathcal{F}_n .

Efficient. Exists poly-time algorithm that given $x \in \{0, 1\}^n$ and (a description of) $f \in \mathcal{F}_n$, outputs $f(x)$.

Proving GL for compressing functions

Definition 8

Function $f: \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^n$ is $d(n)$ regular, if $|f^{-1}(y)| = d(n)$ for every $y \in f(\{0, 1\}^n)$.

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Lemma 9

Let $f: \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^n$ be a $d(n) \in 2^{\omega(\log n)}$ regular function, and let $\mathcal{H} = \{\mathcal{H}_n\}$ be an efficient family of Boolean pairwise independent functions over $\{0, 1\}^n$. Define $g: \{0, 1\}^n \times \mathcal{H}_n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^n \times \mathcal{H}_n$ as

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$\{\mathcal{H}_n = \{b_r(\cdot) = b(r, \cdot)\}_{r \in \{0, 1\}^n}\}$ is (almost) pairwise independent.

Proving Lemma 9

The lemma follows by the next claim:

Claim 10

$SD((f(U_n), H, H(U_n)), (f(U_n), H, U_1)) = \text{neg}(n)$, where $H = H_n$ is uniformly distributed over \mathcal{H}_n .

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Proving Lemma 9, cont.

Since $H_\infty(X_y) = \log(d(n))$ for any $y \in f(\{0, 1\}^n)$,

Proving Lemma 9, cont.

Since $H_\infty(X_y) = \log(d(n))$ for any $y \in f(\{0, 1\}^n)$, the leftover hash lemma (Lemma 6) yields that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SD}((H, H(X_y)), (H, U_1)) &\leq 2^{(1-H_\infty(X_y)-2)/2} \\ &= 2^{(1-\log(d(n)))/2} = \text{neg}(n). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Section 2

Proving GL – The Computational Case

Proving Goldreich-Levin Theorem

Theorem 11 (Goldreich-Levin)

For $f: \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^n$, define $g: \{0, 1\}^n \times \{0, 1\}^n \mapsto \{0, 1\}^n \times \{0, 1\}^n$ as $g(x, r) = (f(x), r)$.

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Proof: Assume \exists PPT A , $p \in \text{poly}$ and infinite set $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ with

$$\Pr[A(g(U_n, R_n)) = b(U_n, R_n)] \geq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{p(n)}, \quad (1)$$

for any $n \in \mathcal{I}$, where U_n and R_n are uniformly (and independently) distributed over $\{0, 1\}^n$.

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We show \exists PPT B and $q \in \text{poly}$ with

$$\Pr_{y \leftarrow f(U_n)}[B(y) \in f^{-1}(y)] \geq \frac{1}{q(n)}, \quad (2)$$

for every $n \in \mathcal{I}$.

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Proof: Assume \exists PPT A , $p \in \text{poly}$ and infinite set $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ with

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for any $n \in \mathcal{I}$, where U_n and R_n are uniformly (and independently) distributed over $\{0, 1\}^n$.

We show \exists PPT B and $q \in \text{poly}$ with

$$\Pr_{y \leftarrow f(U_n)}[B(y) \in f^{-1}(y)] \geq \frac{1}{q(n)}, \quad (2)$$

for every $n \in \mathcal{I}$. In the following fix $n \in \mathcal{I}$.

Focusing on a good set

Claim 12

There exists a set $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \{0, 1\}^n$ with

- 1 $\frac{|\mathcal{S}|}{2^n} \geq \frac{1}{2p(n)}$, and
- 2 $\Pr[A(f(x), R_n) = b(x, R_n)] \geq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2p(n)}, \forall x \in \mathcal{S}.$

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Proof: Let $\mathcal{S} := \{x \in \{0, 1\}^n : \Pr[A(f(x), R_n) = b(x, R_n)] \geq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2p(n)}\}.$

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$$\Pr[A(g(U_n, R_n)) = b(U_n, R_n)] \leq \Pr[U_n \notin \mathcal{S}] \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2p(n)}\right) + \Pr[U_n \in \mathcal{S}]$$

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We conclude the theorem's proof showing exist $q \in \text{poly}$ and PPT B :

$$\Pr[B(f(x)) \in f^{-1}(f(x))] \geq \frac{1}{q(n)}, \quad (3)$$

for every $x \in \mathcal{S}.$

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We conclude the theorem's proof showing exist $q \in \text{poly}$ and PPT B :

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for every $x \in \mathcal{S}$. In the following we fix $x \in \mathcal{S}$.

The Perfect Case

$$\Pr[A(f(x), R_n) = b(x, R_n)] = 1$$



● $A(f(x), r) = b(x, r)$

● $A(f(x), r) \neq b(x, r)$

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In particular, $A(f(x), e^i) = b(x, e^i)$ for every $i \in [n]$, where $e^i = (\underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_{i-1}, 1, \underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_{n-i})$.

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Hence, $x_i = \langle x, e^i \rangle_2$

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Hence, $x_i = \langle x, e^i \rangle_2 = b(x, e^i) = A(f(x), e^i)$

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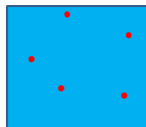
Hence, $x_i = \langle x, e^i \rangle_2 = b(x, e^i) = A(f(x), e^i)$

Algorithm 13 (Inverter B on input y)

Return $(A(y, e^1), \dots, A(y, e^n))$.

Easy case

$$\Pr[A(f(x), R_n) = b(x, R_n)] \geq 1 - \text{neg}(n)$$

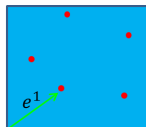


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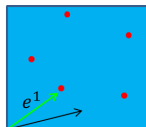


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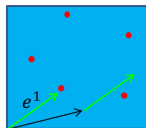
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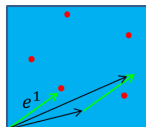


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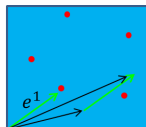
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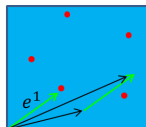
● $A(f(x), r) \neq b(x, r)$

Fact 14

① $b(x, w) \oplus b(x, y) = b(x, w \oplus y)$ for every $w, w, y \in \{0, 1\}^n$.

Easy case

$$\Pr[A(f(x), R_n) = b(x, R_n)] \geq 1 - \text{neg}(n)$$



● $A(f(x), r) = b(x, r)$

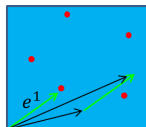
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Fact 14

- 1 $b(x, w) \oplus b(x, y) = b(x, w \oplus y)$ for every $w, y \in \{0, 1\}^n$.
- 2 $\forall r \in \{0, 1\}^n$, the rv $(R_n \oplus r)$ is uniformly distributed over $\{0, 1\}^n$.

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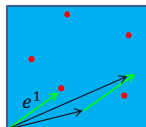
- ① $b(x, w) \oplus b(x, y) = b(x, w \oplus y)$ for every $w, y \in \{0, 1\}^n$.
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Hence, $\forall i \in [n]$:

- ① $x_i = b(x, e^i) = b(x, r) \oplus b(x, r \oplus e^i)$ for every $r \in \{0, 1\}^n$

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$$\Pr[A(f(x), R_n) = b(x, R_n)] \geq 1 - \text{neg}(n)$$



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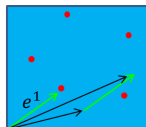
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- 1 $x_i = b(x, e^i) = b(x, r) \oplus b(x, r \oplus e^i)$ for every $r \in \{0, 1\}^n$
- 2 $\Pr[A(f(x), R_n) = b(x, R_n) \wedge A(f(x), R_n \oplus e^i) = b(x, R_n \oplus e^i)] \geq 1 - \text{neg}(n)$

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Algorithm 15 (Inverter B on input y)

Return $(A(y, R_n) \oplus A(y, R_n \oplus e^1), \dots, A(y, R_n) \oplus A(y, R_n \oplus e^n))$.

Proving Fact 14

① For $w, w, y \in \{0, 1\}^n$:

$$\begin{aligned} b(x, y) \oplus b(x, w) &= \left(\bigoplus_{i=1}^n x_i \cdot y_i \right) \oplus \left(\bigoplus_{i=1}^n x_i \cdot w_i \right) \\ &= \bigoplus_{i=1}^n x_i \cdot (y_i \oplus w_i) \\ &= b(x, y \oplus w) \end{aligned}$$

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2 For $r, y \in \{0, 1\}^n$:

$$\Pr[R_n \oplus r = y] = \Pr[R_n = y \oplus r] = 2^{-n}$$

Intermediate Case

$$\Pr[A(f(x), R_n) = b(x, R_n)] \geq \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{q(n)}$$



- $A(f(x), r) = b(x, r)$
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For any $i \in [n]$

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Algorithm 16 (Inverter B on input $y \in \{0, 1\}^n$)

- 1 For every $i \in [n]$
 - 1 Sample $r^1, \dots, r^v \in \{0, 1\}^n$ uniformly at random
 - 2 Let $m_i = \text{maj}_{j \in [v]} \{(A(y, r^j) \oplus A(y, r^j \oplus e^i))\}$
- 2 Output (m_1, \dots, m_n)

B's Success Provability

The following claim holds for “large enough” $v = v(n) \in \text{poly}(n)$.

B's Success Provability

The following claim holds for “large enough” $v = v(n) \in \text{poly}(n)$.

Claim 17

For every $i \in [n]$, it holds that $\Pr[m_i = x_i] \geq 1 - \text{neg}(n)$.

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For every $i \in [n]$, it holds that $\Pr[m_i = x_i] \geq 1 - \text{neg}(n)$.

Proof: For $j \in [v]$, let the indicator rv W^j be 1, iff $A(f(x), r^j) \oplus A(f(x), r^j \oplus e^j) = x_i$.

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We want to lowerbound $\Pr \left[\sum_{j=1}^v W^j > \frac{v}{2} \right]$.

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- The W^j are iids and $E[W^j] \geq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{q(n)}$ for every $j \in [v]$

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Lemma 18 (Hoeffding's inequality)

Let X^1, \dots, X^v be iids over $[0, 1]$ with expectation μ . Then,

$\Pr\left[\left|\frac{\sum_{j=1}^v X^j}{v} - \mu\right| \geq \varepsilon\right] \leq 2 \cdot \exp(-2\varepsilon^2 v)$ for every $\varepsilon > 0$.

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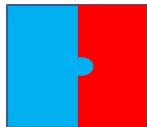
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We complete the proof taking $X^j = W^j$, $\varepsilon = 1/4q(n)$ and $v \in \omega(\log(n) \cdot q(n)^2)$.

The actual (hard) case

$$\Pr[A(f(x), R_n) = b(x, R_n)] \geq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{q(n)}$$



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Solution: choose the samples in a **correlated** manner

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- Fix $\ell = \ell(n)$ (will be $O(\log n)$) and set $v = 2^\ell - 1$.

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- 1 Sample uniformly (and independently) $t^1, \dots, t^\ell \in \{0, 1\}^n$
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- 4 For all $i \in [n]$, let $m_i = \text{maj}_{\mathcal{L} \subseteq [\ell]} \{A(f(x), r^\mathcal{L} \oplus e^i) \oplus b(x, r^\mathcal{L})\}$
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- Problem: the $W^\mathcal{L}$'s are **dependent**!

Analyzing B's success probability

- 1 Let T^1, \dots, T^ℓ be iid and uniform over $\{0, 1\}^n$.
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- 1 $\forall \mathcal{L} \subseteq [\ell]$, $R^\mathcal{L}$ is uniformly distributed over $\{0, 1\}^n$.
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Proving **Fact 20(2)**

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Pairwise independence variables

Definition 21 (pairwise independent random variables)

A sequence of random variables X^1, \dots, X^v is **pairwise independent**, if $\forall i \neq j \in [v]$ and $\forall a, b$, it holds that

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Lemma 22 (Chebyshev's inequality)

Let X^1, \dots, X^v be pairwise-independent random variables with expectation μ and variance σ^2 . Then, for every $\varepsilon > 0$,

$$\Pr \left[\left| \frac{\sum_{j=1}^v X^j}{v} - \mu \right| \geq \varepsilon \right] \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{\varepsilon^2 v}$$

B's success provability, cont.

Assuming that B always guesses $\{b(x, t^i)\}$ correctly, then for every $\mathcal{L} \subseteq [\ell]$

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Taking the guessing into account, yields that **B** outputs x with probability at least $2^{-\ell}/2 \in \Omega(n/q(n)^2)$.

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\implies (by GL) Exists algorithm B that guesses X from nothing, with prob $\alpha^{O(1)} > 2^{-t}$

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The difference comparing to Goldreich-Levin – no control over the R_n 's.